



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No.: 10/021,208  
Art Group: 1772  
Examiner: Alexander S. Thomas  
1<sup>st</sup> Applicant: Gary Heartsfield  
Filed: December 7, 2001  
Title: Improved Mat Apparatus and Method  
Atty. Ref.: 077662.000008  
Customer No.: 27644

Confirmation No. 1383

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING — 37 C.F.R. § 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence, and any and all correspondence referenced herein, is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on **December 29, 2003**.

*H. Lisa Calico*

H. Lisa Calico

*Dec. 29, 2003*

Date

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Commissioner:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, it is respectfully requested that this Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) be entered and the documents listed on attached form(s) PTO/SB/08 be considered by the Examiner and made of record. Copies of the listed documents required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2) are enclosed for the convenience of the Examiner.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97(g) and (h), this IDS is not to be construed as a representation that a search has been made, and is not to be construed to be an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(b).

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d) and (e)(1), this IDS is being submitted on or before payment of the issue fee and each item of information contained in this IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the present statement, as evidenced by the date of the enclosed search report. Thus, the Commissioner is authorized to deduct the fee of \$180 set forth in 37

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C.F.R. § 1.17(p) from Thompson & Knight LLP's Deposit Account No. 20-0821/077662.000008/HLC).

\* \* \*

The Applicant respectfully requests that the listed documents be made of record in the present case.

Should the examiner have any questions or concerns that might be resolved by telephone communication, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned attorney at 512-469-6100.

Should any additional fees be required under Rules 1.16 – 1.21 for any reason relating to the enclosed materials, the Assistant Commissioner is authorized to deduct said fees from Thompson & Knight, L.L.P.'s Deposit Account No. 20-0821/077662.000008/HLC.

Respectfully submitted,

THOMPSON & KNIGHT LLP

By \_\_\_\_\_

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<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>	Application No.	10/021,208
	Filing Date	1772
	1 <sup>st</sup> Named Inventor	Gary Heartsfield
	Art Unit	1772
	Examiner Name	Alexander S. Thomas
	Atty. Docket No.	077662.000008

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U.S. Patents			
Examiner Initials*	Inventor	Patent Number	Issue Date
	Mortellite, Robert M., et al.	6,214,147	04/10/2001

U.S. Patent Application Publications			
Examiner Initials*	Applicant	Patent Application Publication Number	Publication Date

U.S. Applications, Unpublished			
Examiner Initials*	Inventor	Application Number	Filing Date

Foreign Patents and Foreign Patent Application Publications		
Examiner Initials*	Country or Patent Office Abbr., Document Number	Publication Date
	EP 1 118 461 A2	07/25/2001
	FR 2 409 057	06/15/1979
	GM 78 06 307 U1	06/15/1978

Non-Patent Literature	
Examiner Initials*	Include author, title, pages, date, publisher, and place of publication

Examiner Signature	Date Considered

\* EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.